

The Middletown Transcript

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY MORNING
MIDDLETOWN, NEW CASTLE COUNTY, DELAWARE

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PRINCE HENRY

The brother of Emperor William, who is visiting this country as the representative of royalty, has been given an exhibition of how swiftly we do things. Eating and sleeping is almost entirely done on the train, although banquet has followed banquet in profusion. Prince Henry will undoubtedly carry back to Germany the impression that the Americans are a hustling people, and this will explain to his people why we have captured the markets of the world. Some captious persons are already criticizing the favor bestowed on the Prince, but as their receptions are all at private expense, it is a matter concerning only those who pay the bills.

GOOD TIME TO THINK ABOUT ROADS

Under the above heading, *Every Evening* calls attention to the "just terrible" condition of our road, and in part says:

"This state of affairs should not be permitted to continue indefinitely. It has prevailed too long already. The entire road system of Delaware needs re-forming. It needs to be put upon a practical, scientific basis in order that good and permanent results may be obtained from the large outlays of money. For the trouble is not due to extreme economy in expenditures, but entirely to the lack of a proper system. The money spent on roads in New Castle County, had it been properly and systematically expended, would have produced satisfactory results years ago. As it is, the money is gone but the fruits are not to be seen."

We agree with *Every Evening* that now is the proper time to consider the question of a better system of road making and road repairing. In fact any time is proper to consider this question, but no time is so good as the present. In order to get a proper system for this State or even for the county it will be necessary to secure certain legislation, that all work may be done with the view of one general result.

But pending such legislation our road commissioners can and should endeavor to use more common sense and follow closer the advanced ideas in road work. One implement which is rarely if ever used on our public roads is the roller. In all the improved road or street building the roller is very much in evidence, and is kept at work rolling and rolling and again rolling until the bed was made into a solid mass. The Southern Railway Company has recently by means of its good roads train proven that a good road can be made even in a clay country if the proper plan is followed. And where gravel is as plentiful and cheap as it is in this neighborhood, and excellent road can be built almost at the same price as a poor one. But this cannot be done by following the old plan of plowing or scraping out the dirt from the ditches into a "hump" right down the middle of the road and then calling it fixed. We would like our road commissioners to try the new plan. It will not cost much. When they begin to spread gravel on some of the bad places or start their road scraper, let them experiment with the roller. An ordinary farm roller, well weighted with stones will do to try. We are satisfied that one honest test will satisfy even the most prejudiced man.

ST. GEORGES ITEMS

Mr. Robert Hendrickson is a visitor in New York.
Mr. Frank Jester was in Delaware City on Tuesday.
Mrs. John Moore has returned from Middletown.
Mr. James Gan was a Wilmington visitor Wednesday.
Mr. H. W. Swain was a Middletown visitor last Saturday.
Mr. John Jester was a caller in Middletown on Wednesday.
Mrs. Fred Hildebrand has returned home from Philadelphia.
Mrs. George Swain was entertained by friends in Middletown Wednesday.
Messrs. H. W. Swain and Vincent Moore were in Odessa on Tuesday.
Mr. Frederick Ellison and wife have returned to their home in Wilmington.
Mr. George Swain was entertained by friends near Mt. Pleasant on Wednesday.
Mr. W. S. Haman, of State Road, was a guest of his sister, Mrs. H. V. Buckson, last Saturday.
The Fourth Quarterly Conference of the M. E. Church met Monday afternoon at Rev. J. H. Goshgob's.
Misses Susie and Elizabeth Simmons, of "Bird's Nest," were guests of Miss Miriam Price last Saturday.
Mrs. J. T. White, of Odessa, and Miss Blanche Jones, of McDonough, were entertained by Mrs. H. C. Dolson last week.

\$5000 APPROPRIATION

The announcement that Congressman Ball had secured an appropriation of \$5,000 to be used in dredging the Appoquinimink river was good news to the people of this hundred, particularly to those living in Odessa. This amount will insure the reduction of four miles in the distance from Odessa to the mouth of the Appoquinimink, and therefore enable the farmers to get their produce to the Philadelphia market in quicker time and better order. The facts in relation to this river are that no Government aid was given to its development until the Sen. Senator, Anthony Higgins, obtained the first appropriation, in 1890, and whenever an appropriation has been made it was the result of Republican effort.

F. B. Watkins, the manager of the Clio Steamboat Line, when asked about it, said that the amount (\$5,000) was satisfactory, and would enable the out-lined work to be continued for the next year, and thus cut off four of the bends by digging a straight channel through the marsh. Daniel W. Corbit said that it would be a great thing for the fruit growers, as the steamer would be able to start about one hour later, and this would be added to the time the farmer needed to get his fruit picked and put in shape for market. Elias N. Moore and George L. Townsend agreed with Mr. Corbit, and hoped that the section would go through without change.

The people of Middletown are interested in this river, as a large part of the freight received by local merchants comes by steamboat to Odessa, and is hauled in wagons to town, the saving in freight charges being considerable. Every person seen and asked expressed the highest satisfaction and pleasure, and praise is given to Delaware's lone Congressman, who appears capable of doing things.

TOWNSEND NEWS BUDGET

Mrs. John D. Stradley is visiting relatives in Baltimore.

Mr. Heston Atwell, of Wilmington, visited here on Wednesday.

Miss Isabella Cox, of Barclay, Md., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. Henry Skaggs.

Mrs. Watts, of Cecil, has been visiting her mother, Mrs. L. B. Shockey, for several days.

The shirt factory has been making satisfactory progress under the management of the new foreman. It is thought that this factory will now go to the fore as a steady-running industry, and a good paying one, too.

The band boys will hold an oyster supper in the room over the old post office on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, March 12th and 13th. All of our citizens should liberally aid this deserving cause on the occasion.

Local weather prophets declare there will be considerable bad weather this month. The reason given is that the month contains five Saturdays, five Sundays and five Mondays, which is regarded as a sure sign of bad weather.

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Johnson, of Farmington, have returned home after having paid a very pleasant visit to Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Donovan on Gray street. They had stopped over while enroute to their home from Philadelphia.

Mr. James Brown has moved to town, he having sold his farm stock a few days ago. He is occupying the house formerly occupied by Mr. Walter Gill on Railroad avenue. He recently purchased this property from Mr. W. H. Reynolds.

Robert E. Waters having postponed his public sale on account of the inclement weather, will now hold the sale on Thursday March 13th, and he further announces that it will positively be held on the above date. Having removed from the Smith farm the sale will now be held at the residence of Mr. Joseph H. Gussard, on the fourth of a mile south of Ginn's corner.

Telegraph operator William Wright has been transferred from Middletown to Laurel and will hereafter be on duty. He is considered a very good telegrapher, and by prompt, efficient service is steadily climbing the ladder of success. In fact, his promotions since entering the railroad service but a few years ago have been remarkably rapid and very gratifying to his many friends, and only show what a progressive and reliable young man can do when he sets out to accomplish a certain aim in life. We wish him the greatest success in the future.

Miss Elma Finley, a popular young lady of this place, was taken to a Philadelphia hospital on Monday morning suffering from an abscess of the ear. The young lady had been afflicted with this painful ailment, for several days, and seeming to steadily grow worse, it was decided to place her in charge of the hospital physicians on Monday. According to reports, she was slightly improved on Wednesday, but her condition at that time did not show sufficient improvement to warrant the decision of not performing an operation. It is still thought that an operation will be made, but is of course yet in doubt.

Corbit Timmons, a popular young man and who formerly lived here, was killed about 10 o'clock on Tuesday night while working as a brakeman in the West Yard by falling in front of moving cars. He was standing on the front of a car applying the brakes, when the brake-wheel suddenly came off, the nut that was holding it having come off in his attempt to check the speed of the cars, and the singular accident thereby causing Timmons to lose his balance. He fell directly across the tracks and in an instant six cars passed over his body. The wheels dented him and cut off both his arms at the shoulders. The two parts of the mangled body were picked up by trainmen and were removed to the emergency hospital at French street station. William Timmons, a friend on the Delaware Railroad, arrived at the station just as the remains of Corbit, his brother, were taken into the dead house. He went into the room and there viewed the mangled body and was nearly overcome by the sad sight. William was to take the Delaware express train down the State at midnight, and went on the run as scheduled as there was no time to get a substitute for him. Corbit was 23 years of age and is married. He leaves a wife and one child. He had been railroaded but a short time, and was considered a first-class man in the service. He went to Wilmington from Townsend last year or so ago. Being a native of this place and being liked by all who knew him, the news of his tragic and most shocking death was received here with profound sorrow by all. It was decided on Thursday to bring the body to Townsend for burial to-day and according to the funeral party will arrive here at 12 o'clock.

SABATRAS ITEMS

Blatant music is being practiced by our chief.

Navigation is open on the Chester river and Chesapeake bay.

Fletcher Calk visited Philadelphia for several days last week.

Mrs. Laura Townsend is the guest at Mr. P. Jones, this week.

We are sorry to report that Mr. Frank Sylvester is again quite sick.

Miss Mary Lucas left on Tuesday for Philadelphia to accept a position.

Rev. Irvin Matson, of Goltz, was the guest of Messrs. Spry on Wednesday.

Mrs. Lewis Deeks returned home today after a visit to Millington relatives.

Mr. Jacob T. Shallowers was the guest of Mr. T. Othson on Saturday evening.

Messrs. James Clothier and A. Wilson Cochran visited Wilmington on Saturday.

The Maryland County Shoot for Amateurs will be held in Baltimore, May 21st and 22d.

Miss Estelle Vandye, of Townsend, was the guest of Miss Mollie Othson last week.

Farmers in upper Cecil County are compelled by the bad roads to travel on horse back.

Mr. Charles Griffith, of Cecil, was the guest of his father, Robert S. Griffith, on Monday.

Mrs. Sheppard Morris, Sr., left on Tuesday for an extended visit to Philadelphia relatives.

Charles Price, of Philadelphia, is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Brice, of near town.

Messrs. William H. Spry and T. Othson went sailing on Monday and had a very successful catch.

We feel we are brave to find enough or even any society events this week owing to the sled and storm.

Miss Emma Johns left on Wednesday for her sister's, Mrs. H. D. Crockett, Odessa, to remain this week.

For over a month for the first time, the oystermen caught over 5,000 bushels of oysters on Swan Point bar.

There has not been as yet a moment of rest in Lent. It seems our little town and vicinity has been so busy.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Griffith and children were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Staats on Saturday evening.

Miss Emma Johns entertained for dinner last Thursday quite a number of her friends at her beautiful home near town.

A new tribe of Red Men was instituted on Monday night at Cecil by the degree team of Mattaborn tribe of Elkton.

Mr. and Mrs. Phineas Jones left on Monday for Wilmington to spend this week with their daughter, Mrs. Frederick Vansant.

Mr. Jonathan Hodson, of near Massey, has been seriously ill for some time. We are pleased to state he is much improved.

The feature of the week was the elaborate supper given at Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sheppard's on last Friday evening. About \$35 was added to the church fund.

Frank Batlett, of Baltimore, who has been visiting his family at E. W. Staats this winter, and was ill all of last month, has so much improved that he was enabled to leave for his duties last week.

Mr. William Thompson, of Philadelphia, was buried on Monday at Smyrna Delaware. He had been sick for some time, and was a member of four different lodges. He was a nephew of Mr. Frank Sylvester, of this town.

The death of Mr. John T. Wilson, of Elkton, was very sad, and casts a gloom over a long list of connections. Mr. Wilson leaves a devoted and one of the kindest of wives, who was Miss Laura Lindsey, of Chesapeake City, and for many years resided on the "Levies."

The unicorn dam, G. W. Todd & Co., owners, at Millington, burst last Wednesday, washing away nearly the entire waste tumbling. The bridge is all washed away. This will be quite a loss to the owners, as it will cost over \$2,000 to repair the breach of the dam, alone. A quantity of goods was much damaged.

The leading social function of the past week was the reception given by Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Robertson at their beautiful home near town, under the auspices of the M. E. Society of the M. E. Church. After business was attended to, the evening was most delightfully spent. The guests were invited to the dining-room where a most elaborate supper was served, consisting of poultry, ice cream, cake, etc.

A severe electrical storm prevailed here all day Friday last, accompanied by vivid lightning and a very heavy rainfall, while all the lowlands adjacent to our town were flooded. The stream over the causeway was impassable. The roar of the waters was something frightful. The stream had risen so high that it was impossible for teams to cross over. Harry Simmons who lives two miles on the other side of the stream had to give up the attempt and drive by Colts a distance of more than eight miles to get home. A bridge should surely be placed here.

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\$7.50 from \$10, \$12, \$15	\$13 from \$20
\$8.50 from \$12	\$15 from \$22.50, \$25

People never realize how long winter lasts, any more than they realize how long summer lasts—do you remember how late last spring was? It wasn't a very unusual spring either.

This sale is a word to the wise.

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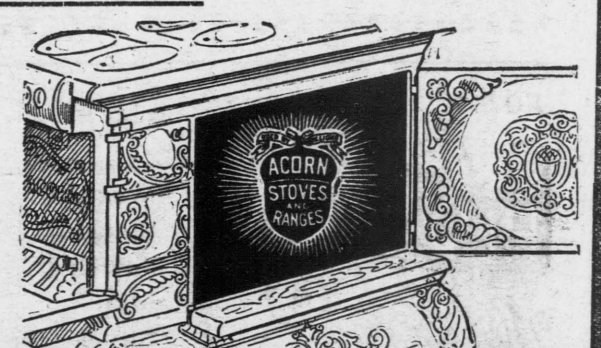
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